

WASHINGTON – Today, Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17), a member of the House Budget Committee, made the following statement regarding cuts to Pell Grants, a [post-secondary](#) educational

[Federal grant](#)

sponsored by the

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

, in the passage of the Republican-supported Appropriations Act (HR 1), last week:

“House Republicans have truly put America’s workforce and families last when it comes to higher education. Over 9 million students in our country depend on this aid, and now they’ll see their benefits reduced tremendously. If we are serious about real economic development and wealth creation, then our workforce needs to be competitive by putting more students in classrooms. It’s not rocket science-- it’s common sense.”

Pell Grants are targeted toward students from low-income families. According to the U.S. PIRG, next school year, a student currently receiving the \$5,550 maximum award would see their aid dropped to \$4,705. By 2017 students would see a \$2,090 cut to the currently projected maximum award of \$6,105. The Republican-supported Appropriations Act reduces the average pell grant award by \$670 in Ohio.